

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

TRAFFIC ENGINEERING DIVISION

MEMORANDUM

GENERAL SUBJECT: Traffic Signs		NUMBER: TE-273
SPECIFIC SUBJECT: "NEXT REST AREA - XX MILES" Sign		DATE: April 8, 1997
		SUPERSEDES:
DIRECTED TO: District Administrators	SIGNATURE: <i>J. L. Butner</i>	

The number of comments received from motorists about our rest areas has revealed that information regarding the distance to the next rest area is important to many travelers. The comment heard most often is that, if they knew it was a significant distance to the next one, they could plan an interim stop at an exit along the way.

Signs indicating the distance to the next rest area have been installed on roadways opposite from rest areas where there is none in the immediate vicinity in that direction. There have also been signs installed in conjunction with the advance rest area signs at a few isolated locations.

For consistency across the state, signs designed in accordance with the attached specifications shall be installed on the approaches to all rest areas on the interstate system between the existing REST AREA advance sign and the ramp to the rest area. The most desirable location of this sign is immediately following the advance rest area sign.

Where the next rest area is in an adjoining state, the distance to that facility shall be indicated in advance of the last rest area in Virginia on that route.

The installation of these signs shall be completed not later than October 1, 1997.

cc: Mr. David R. Gehr
Mr. J. G. Browder, Jr.
Mr. Claude D. Garver, Jr.
Mr. P. R. Kolakowski
Division Administrators
Resident Engineers
District Traffic Engineers
Ms. Kathe Jefferson



SHAPE	Horizontal Rectangle		
COLOR	Message and Border:	White (Reflectorized)	
	Field:	Blue (Reflectorized)	
SIZE	Horizontal:	126"	
	Vertical:	48"	
MESSAGE	Line 1	Capitals:	10" D (See Note)
	Line 2	Capitals:	10" D
BORDER WIDTH	1 ½"		
CORNER RADIUS	6"		

Note: Vertical spacing between the message and the border is 8 ½". Vertical spacing between the lines of message is 8". Spacing between letters on line 1 shall be accomplished at 85 % of the normal spacing.